

**Amendments to the specification**

Please replace the paragraph which begins on page 12, line 25 and ends on page 13, line 4 with the following paragraph:

"Regardless of desired coating surface characteristics, preferred stents in accordance with the present invention are covered from the interior of the stent lumen ~~such that the stent scaffolding.~~ In one embodiment, the cover adheres completely to contours of the stent struts. The cover may be strategically applied to either form a strut compliant membrane, a non-compliant membrane within the internal diameter of the stent or incrementally in between. One of the principal functions of the variable covering method is to enhance friction points on the exterior of the stent and/or control flow dynamics through the interior lumen of the stent."

Support for the added language may be found in claim 14 as originally filed, which read: "The medical appliance of claim 13, wherein the cover adheres completely to contours of the stent struts."